

What is claimed is:

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a1*
1. A method of protecting keratinous fiber from extrinsic damage comprising applying to said keratinous fiber a composition comprising at least one plant extract chosen from potato extract, mistletoe extract, avocado extract, wheat germ extract, and willowherb extract.
 2. A method of protecting keratinous fiber from extrinsic damage according to claim 1, wherein said composition further comprises at least one sugar.
 3. A method of protecting keratinous fiber from extrinsic damage according to claim 2, wherein said sugar is chosen from monosaccharides, disaccharides and polysaccharides.
 4. A method of protecting keratinous fiber from extrinsic damage according to claim 3, wherein said monosaccharides are chosen from pentoses and hexoses.
 5. A method of protecting keratinous fiber from extrinsic damage according to claim 4, wherein said pentoses are chosen from ribose, arabinose, xylose, lyxose, ribulose, and xylulose.

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17. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 16, wherein said sugar is chosen from monosaccharides, disaccharides and polysaccharides.

18. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 17, wherein said monosaccharides are chosen from pentoses and hexoses.

19. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 18, wherein said pentoses are chosen from ribose, arabinose, xylose, lyxose, ribulose, and xylulose.

20. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 18, wherein said hexoses are chosen from allose, altrose, glucose, mannose, gulose, idose, galactose, talose, sorbose, psicose, fructose, and tagatose.

21. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 17, wherein said disaccharides are chosen from maltose, sucrose, cellobiose, trehalose and lactose.

23. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 16, wherein said sugar is sucrose and said plant extract is willowherb extract.

25. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber s according to claim 14, wherein said keratinous fiber is chosen from hair, eyelashes, and eyebrows.

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27. A method of improving combability and/or curl formation of keratinous fiber according to claim 16, wherein said at least one sugar is present in said composition at a concentration ranging from 0.001% to 3.0% relative to the total weight of the composition.

28. A composition for the treatment or protection of keratinous fiber, said composition comprising at least one willowherb extract and at least one sugar.

29. A composition for the treatment of keratinous fiber according to claim 28, wherein said sugar is chosen from monosaccharides, disaccharides and polysaccharides.

30. A composition for the treatment of keratinous fiber according to claim 29,
wherein said monosaccharides are chosen from pentoses and hexoses.

31. A composition for the treatment of keratinous fiber according to claim 30, wherein said pentoses are chosen from ribose, arabinose, xylose, lyxose, ribulose, and xylulose.

[illegible]

claim 28

37. A composition for the treatment of keratinous fiber according to claim 28, wherein said at least one plant extract is present in said composition at a concentration ranging from 0.01% to 5.0% relative to the total weight of the composition.

38. A composition for the treatment of keratinous fiber according to claim 28, wherein said at least one sugar is present in said composition at a concentration ranging from 0.001% to 3.0% relative to the total weight of the composition.

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